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SURVEY OF PAPERS.

LEHMANN, in a survey of 324 Indian soldiers, shows that haemoglobin estimation is a more sensitive test for malnutrition than the determination of serum protein. There is some correlation between low serum protein and anaemia, but this correlation would be expected only in macrocytic anaemia, which is found in people living on a diet lacking in vitamins and valuable protein. whereas anaemia due to lack of iron is not necessarily associated with hypoproteinaemia (p. 377).

BARNES has infected rabbits, guinea-pigs and mice with anthrax by the inhalation of dried spores. He describes the infection which is not a true pulmonary disease but serves to show how a generalized infection may be set up by the introduction of infective particles through the uninjured respiratory tract. He discusses the mode of action of Tergitol, a commercial detergent which enhances the virulence of dried anthrax spores (p. 385).

STUART-HARRIS and MILLER have found great variability in the Hirst agglutination-inhibition test with immune animal sera and pairs of sera from cases of influenza during outbreaks in January, 1947. Mouse-neutralization tests have indicated that one of the newly-isolated viruses is related to the PR8 standard strain of influenza virus and that the neutralizing antibody content of the convalescent sera is not closely related to agglutination-inhibition activity (p. 394).

BAWDEN and CROOK have studied the distribution of virus in leaves infected with potato virus X. By incubating fibrous residues of infected leaves with snail enzyme they obtain as much virus as occurs in the sap, but the sizes of the virus particles vary widely in the different kinds of extracts. They have, however, adduced no conclusive evidence to indicate the size and condition of the virus as it is produced and exists in infected cells (p. 403).

WILKINS, continuing his investigation into the production of antibacterial substances by fungi, gives his results with a fourth 100 of the species of basidiomycetes (p. 416).

CALLOW, GLOVER, D'ARCY HART and HILLS describe methods for the production and extraction of the antibiotic licheniformin from *Bacillus licheniformis*. The chemical and biological properties of licheniformin distinguish it from other antibiotics derived from the *B. subtilis* group of bacteria. In mice it is protective against some bacterial infections and has a suppressive effect on tuberculous infection, but is also moderately toxic (p. 418).

BAUER finds that dehydrogenase activity is increased in mouse brains infected with the viruses of yellow fever, lymphocytic choriomeningitis and lymphogranuloma inguinale. This increase is due, in part at least, to an increase in xanthine oxidase and pyruvic dehydrogenase activity. He suggests that these enzymes are essential for virus multiplication (p. 440).